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LETTER DATED 22 JUNE 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from
Mr. Omar Mustafa Almntasser, Secretary of the General People's Committee for
Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, concerning the objection by the
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 748 (1992) to the
procurement of equipment and provision of expert services by the International
Atomic Energy Agency for the establishment of a chemical laboratory at Tripoli
for the analysis of the impact of agricultural pesticides on human health and
animal and plant resources.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document
of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ibrahim A. OMAR
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Annex

Since the adoption of Security Council resolution 748 (1992) imposing a partial embargo on Libya starting 15 April 1992, we have constantly called attention in our numerous letters to you, the last of which was my letter dated 9 February 1992, to the harm to which the Libyan Arab people has been subject as a result of that resolution.

A look at the successive decisions of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to the said resolution clearly shows that those decisions go beyond the letter and spirit of the Security Council resolution in question, the latest such decision being its failure to approve the creation, in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), of a laboratory at the Agricultural Research Centre in Tripoli for analysing the impact of agricultural pesticides on human health and animal and plant resources. The decision to set up this project was first taken in the Great Jamahiriya after analyses performed in a number of European laboratories demonstrated to it the failure of agricultural pesticide manufacturing companies to comply with internationally accepted specifications and the failure of suppliers of foodstuffs and fodder to comply with both local and international specifications, thus exposing the health of citizens and of animal and plant resources to considerable harm.

The Great Jamahiriya expresses its profound regret at the adoption of such a decision by the Committee at the insistence of some of its members despite the fact that IAEA informed the Committee on 17 February 1993 that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya desired to create the laboratory and use the services of the Agency's experts, the project being funded by the Great Jamahiriya by means of credits, and that the purpose of the laboratory was to analyse various types of agricultural pesticides, to check the reliability of the information provided by manufacturers regarding the concentration of the active principle (the component which kills pests, pathogens and weeds) and its suitability for its intended uses, and to measure the level of concentration of pesticide residues in or on fruit, vegetables, grain and fodder. Moreover, the IAEA presented an ample explanation of the project, the equipment and the related purposes in addition to presenting further clarifications in answer to inquiries of the Committee, including the following:

1. On 2 December 1992, the International Atomic Energy Agency approved for other countries six technical assistance projects, all of which are similar to the Libyan request in terms of purpose, which is ultimately the protection, in general, of human health and animal, plant and environmental resources, to which the United Nations and its specialized agencies devote particular attention.
2. All the equipment required for the project is analytical equipment, none of which can be used for the manufacture of chemical weapons; IAEA has provided explanations to the Committee with technical details on that equipment.

His Excellency Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Secretary-General of the United Nations

3. The persons who will be using the equipment are laboratory chemists who work in the pesticide analytical chemistry laboratories at the Agricultural Research Centre attached to the Ministry of Agriculture. The IAEA experts submitted ample scientifically based explanations, yet the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 748 totally disregarded the Agency's explanations, nor did it discuss in earnest their content or objectively examine the importance of the project to a developing country in dire need of protecting its citizens and its animal and plant resources. This leads us to draw attention once again to the following points:
- (a) The decision adopted by the Committee owing to the obstinacy of the United States, Great Britain and France is a high-handed, discriminatory measure that is devoid of any logical or legal basis and must be deemed a flagrant transgression of the letter and the spirit of Security Council resolution 748.
 - (b) We hold the Committee responsible for any repercussions and harm that may result from its failure to approve the said project with regard to either the health of the citizens of the Jamahiriya or animal and plant resources and we appeal to the Security Council to review the Committee's decision.
 - (c) We reserve the right of the Great Jamahiriya and its people to bring this issue before the competent international organizations and agencies (the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Council, IAEA and humanitarian organizations) and to consider the stand taken by the Security Council Committee in refusing to allow the implementation of such a project as reflecting a discriminatory attitude against a Member State to deprive it of its right to take advantage of the technical cooperation programmes of agencies as other Member States do.

The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is a small developing country that believes in cooperation with all States based on mutual respect and the achievement of common benefits. Consequently, it cannot condone the use of political pressure and inhumane means by certain countries as a tool for achieving political goals that are far from the noble objectives of the Charter of the United Nations; yet the decision adopted by the Committee established pursuant to resolution 748 against the Jamahiriya and its people in connection with the project referred to above is but a living example of the policy of double standards in dealing with Member States.

The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya sets great store by continued cooperation with international organizations and trusts that you will use your good offices to ensure the continuation of that cooperation.

(Signed) Omar Mustafa ALMUNTASSER
Secretary of the General People's
Committee for Foreign Liaison and
International Cooperation
